

K 4414 (3) CUCKFIELD

Cuckfield Urban District Council

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1950

BY

**WILLIAM B. STOTT,**

L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Camb.)

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CHARLES CLARKE (HAYWARDS HEATH) LTD

1951



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# INDEX

	PAGE
Ambulance Facilities .. .. .	10
Births .. .. .	9, 10
Caravans .. .. .	19
Clinics and Treatment Centres .. .. .	11
Complaints .. .. .	18
Deaths .. .. .	8, 9, 10
Diphtheria Immunisation .. .. .	4, 12
Factories .. .. .	20
Food Hygiene .. .. .	6
Food Infections .. .. .	6
Food Inspection .. .. .	27
Food Premises .. .. .	23
Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases .. .. .	10
Housing .. .. .	19, 26
Ice-cream .. .. .	25
Infant Mortality .. .. .	3, 8
Infectious Disease .. .. .	3, 12, 13
Infestations .. .. .	19
Inspections .. .. .	21
Laboratory Facilities .. .. .	10
Licensing of Work .. .. .	26
Maternal Mortality .. .. .	9
Meat Inspection .. .. .	21
Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital .. .. .	17
Milk Supply .. .. .	24
Notification of Measles and Whooping Cough .. .. .	5
Population .. .. .	8
Public Sanitary Conveniences .. .. .	26
Rateable Value .. .. .	8
Rats and Mice Destruction .. .. .	26
Sanitary Supervision of the Area .. .. .	18
Slaughterhouses .. .. .	21
Slaughter of Animals Act .. .. .	22
Smallpox .. .. .	10
Staff .. .. .	7
Statistics .. .. .	8, 16
Tuberculosis .. .. .	14, 15
Vaccination .. .. .	5
Water Supply .. .. .	26

# REPORT

OF

## The Medical Officer of Health.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Cuckfield Urban District Council.*

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1950.

The Crude Death Rate is 12.34 and this figure when adjusted gives a Corrected Death Rate of 9.62, which compares with 11.6 for England and Wales.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 24.75 as compared with 29.8 for the country as a whole and with 26.43 for 1949.

The Death Rate for Tuberculosis is 0.18 as compared with 0.36 for England and Wales.

No deaths occurred during the year from Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Measles or Typhoid Fever.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

I am pleased to report that no case of poliomyelitis occurred during the year.

Thirty-seven cases of scarlet fever occurred, rather less than last year, and of these ten were removed to the Isolation Hospital. I should like to point out once again that as scarlet fever is now a comparatively mild disease cases should only be removed where (1) the patient cannot be nursed at home, (2) a member of the household is employed in the handling of milk and (3) there is an approaching confinement in the house. In view of the small number of beds available at the Isolation Hospital for such a large population it is important that these beds should not be taken up by unnecessary admissions of scarlet fever, resulting in more urgent cases having to be refused.

No case of diphtheria occurred and in fact since 1940 only five cases have been notified :—

1941 one ; 1943 two (sisters) ; 1946 one ; 1949 one.

All five cases were comparatively mild, four of them being in children who had been immunised.

Before the war scabies was practically unknown in this district, but following the evacuation of children from London, many of whom brought the disease with them, a large number of local inhabitants contracted the disease. Since the end of the war the incidence has been getting less and last year with only five cases one can now say that the district is practically free from this disease.

It will be seen that ten cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year, which at first sight might give cause for alarm. Seven, however, were in respect of cases occurring in previous years which although they had been notified to County Hall had not been notified to this office.



## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Since July 1948 the County Council has been responsible for the administration of this scheme and the County Medical Officer of Health has delegated the duties in connection with local arrangements to your Medical Officer of Health.

Striking figures for the country as a whole were given in a recent article by a Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health. In 1941 over 50,000 cases of diphtheria were notified and of these 2,641 were fatal, whilst for the preceding ten years the average annual number of deaths was 3,115 and that of notifications around 60,000. During 1950 the number of cases had fallen to 980 with 49 deaths and this satisfactory position has been maintained into 1951. Concern was expressed that in England and Wales during the latter half of 1950 there was a falling-off in the number of children immunised and it was considered that this was due to the fear that inoculations might bring on paralytic poliomyelitis. This problem is now being investigated and for the present all that can be said is that a *prima facie* case has been made out of the possibility, during the epidemic prevalence, of some occasional connection between recent immunisation and the onset of the paralysis. The risk, however, is extremely small and in 1950 with over half a million immunisations only 58 cases of poliomyelitis developed within four weeks of the injection—this out of a total of 5,000 cases of paralytic poliomyelitis.

In this area investigations since 1947 have failed to show a single instance of paralytic poliomyelitis following immunisation injections. As it had been reported that the occurrence of paralysis in the limb had invariably occurred when the injection was given intramuscularly it was decided in August to change our technique of giving .5 cc A.P.T. intramuscularly to .5 cc P.T.A.P. subcutaneously because the latter was reported to cause less discomfort when given by this route. Our experience of this method has been similar; in fact the reactions appear to be less frequent and less pronounced and the Schick conversion rate is equally good.

The falling-off in immunisations in the country as a whole did not apply to this district and the position at 31st December 1950 was that out of a total of 3,593 children under 15 years of age 3,404 had been immunised—a percentage of 95. Immunisation does not commence until the child is nine months old, and if these are excluded from the figures the percentage of children immunised would be 98. I should like to emphasise once again that these figures are not estimates but are founded on fact, a card being made out for every child in the district and immunisations are recorded thereon.

As it is some years since the immunisation scheme as operated in this district was detailed, I think it may be helpful if I were to explain our procedure. Details of children are received from various sources including the Registrar of Births (weekly return), the County Council through the maternity and child welfare department, and other districts and schools. A letter is sent to every parent when the child is eight months old advising immunisation and giving the option of their own doctor or a special clinic. This letter is followed by a personal approach by the district nurse or health visitor, and in a number of cases Dr. Duke, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, gives the injections at the child's home. Three to six months after the immunisation course, which consists of two injections at monthly intervals, an offer is made to the parent for the child to be Schick tested, and this is done by Dr. Duke at special clinics throughout the district.

As immunity wanes somewhat over a period of years all schools in the area are visited at regular intervals, children in primary schools being given a reinforcing injection on admission at the age of five years, while in the case of private school children the new admissions, of whatever age, are Schick tested and only those found to be Schick positive are given another injection.

At ten years of age a Schick test is given, and where the test is positive additional immunisation injections are given. With this age group because of the possibility of reactions with A.P.T. or P.T.A.P. the antigen used is T.A.F. It is interesting to note that of all children tested at this age the percentage who are positive is only 8, showing the methods adopted *do* ensure immunity among the majority of school children. It is also probable that those who do react to the Schick test possess a latent immunity which would come into play if they were infected with the organisms of diphtheria.

All the testing and test reading throughout the area has been carried out by Dr. H. L. Duke, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, and he also gave the majority of the inoculations. It is mainly due to his efforts and those of Miss F. M. Dean, Immunisation Clerk, that the scheme runs so smoothly and efficiently.

## NOTIFICATION OF MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

As it is now eleven years since the Ministry of Health made measles and whooping cough notifiable it would seem that the time is opportune to ask oneself if notification is serving any useful purpose. In the case of measles, 183 cases were notified last year and the figures were about the same for the last few years. There is no doubt that a great deal of time has been taken up with these notifications. The general practitioner has to complete a form in each case—many complain bitterly of the form filling they now have to perform—particulars have to be entered in a register and the form sent to the County Medical Officer of Health who keeps another register. In due course the general practitioner receives two shillings and sixpence for each notification. As far as this district is concerned I cannot see that notification has served any useful purpose as when a general practitioner wishes for the admission of a case to the isolation hospital he telephones the request to my office and notification plays no part in the matter. Whooping cough is a more serious disease than measles, especially in young children, but the same applies to this disease as far as notification is concerned and cases could be admitted to the isolation hospital without it.

## VACCINATION

The recent outbreak of smallpox at Brighton again demonstrated the value of vaccination and revaccination in preventing the disease from spreading and also that on the whole the longer the time since vaccination was performed the more severely persons were attacked. As Dr. Cramb, the Medical Officer of Health, states in his Report on the outbreak, no member of the public health department (medical, nursing, sanitary inspectorate, clerical or ambulance) contracted the disease, all being vaccinated at the beginning of the outbreak, and in the case of all the doctors and many of the sanitary inspectors further revaccinations were performed during the course of the outbreak. All known contacts were vaccinated as soon as ascertained and kept under daily observation, and the efficacy of the procedure is shown by the fact that the outbreak was brought to an end less than four weeks from the time the first case was diagnosed. Without vaccination the outbreak could not have been controlled. Of the twenty-nine cases, ten died and of the latter seven had never been vaccinated, while in the case of the other three all had been vaccinated in infancy but were over 50 years of age, by which time the immunity from vaccination had been lost. It is probable that if these three people had been revaccinated, say at school leaving age, they would be alive to-day.

There were a number of contacts in this district, and they were kept under observation during the incubation period. In the early days of the outbreak I advised the public in this area, through the local press, that those who were working in Brighton or visiting there should be vaccinated but that there was



no need for mass vaccination. The public, however, were alarmed and flocked to the doctors' surgeries, over 6,000 people in this district being vaccinated.

Every child should be vaccinated during the first year of life, preferably about the third or fourth month but only a small percentage of infants are being vaccinated and I would like to make a strong appeal to parents in this district to have their children vaccinated at this age. At a later date, especially in the case of adolescents and adults, primary vaccination is not without risk, small though it may be. Medical opinion is somewhat divided on the need for revaccination in children, but for my part, because of the risk of smallpox being introduced to this country by air travel, I consider children should be revaccinated at school entry and on leaving school. I believe if this were done they would have a better chance of escaping the disease if they came in contact with a case, or at any rate they would have it in a milder form.

## FOOD HYGIENE

Considerable attention was given during the year to the problem of obtaining better conditions in foodshops and catering establishments. Frequent inspections were carried out and a number of talks given to the staff on the causes and prevention of food infections. In addition talks were given to a number of local organisations. These talks serve a very useful purpose in that they educate the public to expect and demand clean food in shops, restaurants, cafés, etc., and as they are usually reported in the local press they have a still wider appeal. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the local press for their co-operation in reporting and commenting on these meetings. They have been most helpful. A Code of Practice which set out the care to be taken by food handlers and the need for personal cleanliness was sent to all food traders in the district and they were asked to bring it to the notice of their staff and to endeavour to carry it out.

Improvements obtained included the provision of lavatory basins for the washing of hands of the staff. A sink which is used for the preparation of vegetables or the washing up of crockery and utensils cannot be regarded as sufficient for hand washing as it may be in use when required for this purpose. Similarly a kettle on a ring cannot be regarded as meeting the requirement of "constant hot water" and, except in the very small shops which are staffed by the owner and/or his wife, proper facilities have been installed at all food shops and catering establishments. The washing of hands is one of the most important factors in the prevention of outbreaks of food poisoning. Time and again outbreaks which have occurred in this country could have been prevented if this simple hygienic precaution had been taken by food handlers before starting work and after having been to the sanitary convenience. At talks to food traders and their staffs I emphasised this point more than any other.

Probably the next most important factor in preventing food poisoning is the keeping of food in a refrigerator. Even if food does become infected with disease-causing bacteria multiplication will only take place under warm conditions, so that it is of the utmost importance for food, after it has been prepared, to be kept at a very low temperature and this means a refrigerator or an ice-chest. It is only in recent years that caterers and food traders have begun to realise the importance of refrigeration of foods, although they have been thinking more in terms of keeping food fresh than preventing food poisoning. It is unusual for disease-causing bacteria to alter the smell or appearance of the food and this is of course unfortunate from the point of view of prevention. Food on display in shops should also be protected from contamination from persons, dust and flies, and this can be achieved by means of refrigerated display cabinets for cooked meats, ham, etc., and by glass for other food. We are insisting on some such provision being made in foodshops.



Proper methods of washing up are also important in preventing food infections, and the majority of restaurants and cafés serving main meals have now installed two sinks, one for washing, a detergent being added to the hot water, and the other containing hot water for rinsing and sterilisation. An excellent Food Hygiene Exhibition, which attracted over 4,000 people including, in addition to the general public, members of women's institutes, school children and food traders and their staffs, was held in Haywards Heath in March 1950. A full report appeared in my last year's annual report.

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My thanks are due to Mr. Staynes, Senior Sanitary Inspector, for his help and co-operation and for the particulars supplied for this Report, and to the other members of the Staff, and in particular to Miss Everson, my Secretary.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the consideration, support and assistance I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. B. STOTT,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

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## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	..	WILLIAM B. STOTT, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Camb.)
<i>Deputy Medical Officer of Health</i>		H. L. DUKE, O.B.E., M.D., Sc.D. (Camb.) D.T.M. & Hy.
<i>Senior Sanitary Inspector</i>	..	R. STAYNES, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I. <i>Certified Meat Inspector</i>
<i>Additional Sanitary Inspector</i>	..	W. G. COKER, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I. <i>Certified Meat Inspector</i> (Resigned May, 1950) R. J. WEBB, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I. <i>Certified Meat Inspector</i> (Appointed July, 1950)
<i>Clerks to the M.O.H.</i>	.. ..	Miss G. L. EVERSON Miss G. J. SHUTTLEWOOD
<i>Clerks to the S.S.I.</i>	.. ..	Miss J. W. HAYLOR, A.I.Hsg. Miss J. K. SIMMONS

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

## Summary of Statistics for the years :

	1948	1949	1950
Area of District in Acres .. .. .	3,912	3,912	3,912
Population estimated to middle of year ..	16,290	16,370	16,776
Rateable Value .. .. .	£147,907	£149,087	£152,753
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ..	£587.11.4.	£593.11.8	£599.1.7.
Density of Population (persons per acre) ..	4.16	4.18	4.29
Number of Houses .. .. .	4,611	4,699	4,648
Birth Rate per 1,000 population .. ..	13.75	13.87	12.04
Death Rate per 1,000 population .. ..	10.31	12.22	12.34
Infant Mortality Rate .. .. .	17.86	26.43	24.75

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN CUCKFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

	MALES	FEMALES
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .. .. .	3	—
2. Tuberculosis, other .. .. .	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease .. .. .	—	1
4. Diphtheria .. .. .	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .. .. .	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections .. .. .	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis .. .. .	—	—
8. Measles .. .. .	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .. ..	1	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. .. .	4	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. ..	3	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast .. .. .	—	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. .. .	—	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	14	11
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia .. .. .	—	1
16. Diabetes .. .. .	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .. ..	8	12
18. Coronary disease, angina .. .. .	8	10
19. Hypertension with heart disease .. .. .	1	3
20. Other heart disease .. .. .	18	37
21. Other circulatory disease .. .. .	2	4
22. Influenza .. .. .	1	—
23. Pneumonia .. .. .	6	4
24. Bronchitis .. .. .	5	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .. ..	1	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. .. .	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. ..	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis .. .. .	2	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. .	4	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. .. .	—	—
31. Congenital malformations .. .. .	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .. ..	8	16
33. Motor vehicle accidents .. .. .	—	—
34. All other accidents .. .. .	—	—
35. Suicide .. .. .	1	—
36. Homicide and operations of war .. .. .	—	—
TOTALS .. .. .	93	114

**BIRTH RATE, CIVILIAN DEATH RATE AND ANNUAL ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY**  
**During the Year 1950 (Provisional Figures).**

	RATE PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.		ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.									RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Smallpox	Acute Polio- mye- litis, including Polioencephalitis	Pneumonia	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (Under 2 years)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	15.8	0.37	11.6	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.36	0.01	—	0.02	0.46	1.9	29.8
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (incl. London)	17.6	0.45	12.3	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.42	0.09	—	0.02	0.49	2.2	33.8
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	16.7	0.38	11.6	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.33	0.10	—	0.02	0.45	1.6	29.4
London	17.8	0.36	11.8	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.39	0.07	—	0.01	0.48	1.0	26.3
Cuckfield Urban	12.04 *13.60	0.18	12.34 *9.62	—	—	—	0.18	0.06	—	—	0.60	14.85	24.75

\* Corrected death rate.

Corrected birth rate

The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales are as follows :—Per 1,000 Total Births .. .. .  
The Maternal Mortality Rates for the Cuckfield Urban District are as follows .. .. .

Puerperal

Sepsis.

Others.

Total.

0.03  
Nil  
..

0.15  
Nil  
..

0.18  
Nil  
..

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS

### Births and Birth Rate

The following table shows the Births registered for the year 1950 :—

				<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	101	..	82	..	183
Illegitimate	..	..	..	9	..	10	..	19
				<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals	..	..		110	..	92	..	202
				<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

This gives a rate of 12.04 per 1,000 population.

				<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
Total Stillbirths—								
Legitimate	..	..	..	—	..	1	..	1
Illegitimate	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2

### Deaths and Death Rate

The following table shows the Deaths registered for the year 1950 :—

<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
93	114	207

This gives a mortality rate of 12.34 per 1,000 population.

The Corrected Death Rate is 9.62.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### Laboratory Facilities

Arrangements are made for the examination of specimens for diphtheria, typhoid, etc., with the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton (Tel. No. Brighton 23506). Medical practitioners send the specimens direct to the Laboratory, and they receive the report by telephone, a copy of such report being sent to this office.

Sputum for tuberculosis—specimens are also sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.

Bacteriological examinations of milk, water, bathing pools, etc., are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory.

### Ambulance Facilities

Cases of infectious diseases are now removed by one of the two British Red Cross Society's ambulances stationed at Lavender's Garage, Sussex Road, Haywards Heath.

### Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases

Twenty-six beds are available at the Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital for the treatment of cases of infectious disease, twelve of these beds are in a cubicle block and the other fourteen in a block consisting of two main wards and side wards.

Alterations were carried out during the year to the block which formerly dealt with cases of diphtheria and it now accommodates fourteen cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

A table on page 17 gives particulars of admissions during the year.

### Smallpox

Sedgebrook Smallpox Hospital, Plumpton, has accommodation for ten cases. The South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board state that cases of smallpox occurring in this district should be sent to the River Hospitals (Long Reach), Dartford, Kent.



## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

## Infant Welfare Centres

Cuckfield ..	Congregational Church Hall	2nd Friday Dr. each session
Franklands Vil- lage	The Institute .. ..	2nd Wednesday Dr. each session
Haywards Heath	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands Haywards Heath	Every Friday Dr. 2nd and 4th Friday
America Lane ..	Bentswood Community Centre, America Lane	1st and 3rd Mondays Dr. 3rd Monday
Lindfield ..	The Tiger .. ..	1st Monday 2.30-4 p.m.

## Clinics

Diphtheria Immunisation	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	Every Monday 10 a.m.-12 noon
T.B. .. ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	Every Thursday except 2nd Thursday
Orthopaedic ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill (by appointment)	Tuesdays 1.30-5 p.m. Fridays 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dr. attends 4th Wednesday at 10.30 a.m.
Speech Therapy	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath (by appointment)	Wednesday 9 a.m.
Child Guidance	<b>East Grinstead</b> Moat Road (by appointment)	Every Friday 10 a.m.
	<b>Lewes</b> Eastgate Baptist Church Room, Lewes (by appointment)	Every Wednesday, 10 a.m.
	<b>Hove</b> 33 Clarendon Villas, Hove 3	Tuesday 10 a.m. Thursday 2 p.m.
Dental	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. and 1.30 p.m.
School Doctor	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath	Dr. Douglas (by appointment)
Family Planning	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath (by appointment)	2nd and 4th Wednesday 2 p.m. Dr. each session
Sub-Fertility ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath (by appointment)	1st Wednesday 2 p.m.
Venereal Diseases	Facilities at Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.	
	<b>Men</b>	Monday .. 1.30-4.30 p.m. Thursday .. 1.30-4.30 p.m. Saturday .. 1.30-4.30 p.m.
	<b>Women and Children</b>	Tuesday .. 1.30-4.30 p.m. Thursday .. 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m. Saturday .. 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

New cases must attend at least one hour before the Clinic closes

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

## Notification Rates per 1,000 of the Population

Notifications	England and Wales	Cuckfield Urban
Typhoid Fever .. ..	0.00	—
Paratyphoid Fever .. ..	0.01	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	0.03	—
Scarlet Fever .. ..	1.50	2.21
Whooping Cough .. ..	3.60	6.02
Diphtheria .. ..	0.02	—
Erysipelas .. ..	0.17	—
Smallpox .. ..	0.00	—
Measles .. ..	8.39	10.91
Pneumonia .. ..	0.70	0.12
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)—		
Paralytic .. ..	0.13	—
Non-paralytic .. ..	0.05	—
Food Poisoning .. ..	0.17	0.06

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

## 0 - 15 YEARS OF AGE

Number on Roll .. ..	3,593
Number Immunised .. ..	3,404
Percentage .. ..	95
Percentage excluding children under nine months ..	98

The table below shows the immunisation figures for every school in the district :—

	On Roll	Immunised	Percentage
SCHOOLS : PRIMARY AND COUNTY SECONDARY			
St. Wilfrid's Junior .. ..	274	274	100
Cuckfield .. ..	287	283	99
HaywardsHeathCountySecondary	490	481	98
St. Wilfrid's Infants .. ..	196	193	98
Lindfield .. ..	355	349	98
	1,602	1,580	99
NOT YET AT SCHOOL, or at school outside our area .. ..	265	262	99
SCHOOLS, Private .. ..	927	914	99
	2,794	2,756	99

# CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever..	37	1	1	2	4	5	19	6	1	1	1	1	1	10	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia ..	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	14	1	1	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	11	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles ..	183	4	20	14	24	16	97	5	2	1	1	1	1	2	1
Whooping Cough ..	101	3	4	12	13	17	47	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scabies ..	5	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Totals ..	357	20	24	28	42	38	163	14	4	17	1	4	2	13	1

## TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1950

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 - 5 ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 - 15 ..	—	1	3	3	—	—	—	—
15 - 25 ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 - 35 ..	2	5	2	—	—	—	—	—
35 - 45 ..	4	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
45 - 55 ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 - 65 ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	8	11	6	4	3	—	—	—



## COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS, 1940-1950

Year	New Cases						Deaths						Number on Register at end of Year					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1940	10	7	17	4	-	4	2	3	5	-	-	-	22	28	50	10	10	20
1941	5	10	15	1	5	6	2	1	3	-	2	2	25	33	58	9	15	24
1942	6	5	11	2	2	4	2	1	3	-	1	1	30	34	64	11	17	28
1943	10	10	20	2	2	4	1	2	3	-	-	-	32	33	65	12	18	30
1944	7	3	10	1	1	2	3	2	5	-	-	-	38	35	73	13	18	31
1945	7	3	10	1	3	4	4	1	5	-	-	-	38	35	73	13	19	32
1946	11	2	13	2	4	6	5	2	7	-	-	-	39	31	70	15	22	37
1947	4	2	6	1	1	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	37	28	65	13	21	34
1948	5	1	6	1	-	1	2	1	3	-	-	-	38	28	66	13	19	32
1949	8	6	14	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	41	33	74	12	19	31
1950	8	11	19	6	4	10	3	-	3	-	-	-	35	41	76	16	22	38

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1936-1950

Year	Esti- mated Popula- tion	Number of Births						Birth Rate	Number of Deaths			Death Rate	Infants' Deaths			Infant Death Rate	Natural Increase of Births over Deaths
		Legitimate			Illegitimate				M	F	Total		M	F	Total		
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total										
1936	13,080	75	79	154	4	5	9	12.5	68	75	143	10.93	-	2	2	12.27	20
1937	13,320	74	75	149	4	5	9	11.9	57	83	140	10.51	3	5	8	50.63	18
1938	13,600	79	79	158	1	6	7	12.13	65	83	148	10.88	3	2	5	30.3	17
1939	13,880	89	96	185	3	1	4	13.61	66	106	172	11.73	3	5	8	41.4	17
1940	16,120	80	68	148	4	2	6	9.55	91	101	192	11.91	5	2	7	43.5	-38
1941	16,280	85	88	173	6	5	11	11.30	92	96	186	11.55	6	2	8	40.4	-2
1942	15,350	111	101	212	12	4	16	14.85	89	125	214	13.94	2	5	7	30.7	14
1943	14,620	115	107	222	12	14	26	16.96	71	117	188	12.86	3	3	6	24.19	60
1944	14,500	122	119	241	13	16	29	18.62	80	115	195	13.45	7	2	9	33.33	75
1945	14,260	91	99	190	9	15	24	15.00	83	92	175	12.27	3	2	5	23.36	39
1946	14,820	113	116	229	9	8	17	16.60	93	102	195	13.16	3	3	6	24.39	51
1947	15,130	133	134	267	5	6	11	18.37	78	113	191	12.62	4	5	9	32.37	87
1948	16,290	109	96	205	8	11	19	13.75	68	100	168	10.31	3	1	4	17.86	56
1949	16,370	114	99	213	6	8	14	13.87	91	109	200	12.22	3	3	6	26.43	27
1950	16,776	101	82	183	9	10	19	12.04	93	114	207	12.34	3	2	5	24.75	-5

# THE MID-SUSSEX ISOLATION HOSPITAL

I am indebted to the Matron, Miss J. M. Reid, for the following particulars of cases admitted during the year.

Disease	Cuckfield Rural District	Cuckfield Urban District	Burgess Hill Urban District	East Grinstead Urban District	Uckfield Rural District	Other Districts	Total
Poliomyelitis .. .. .	6	-	-	1	7	1	15
Observation Poliomyelitis ..	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	28	11	-	16	7	3	65
Scarlet Fever and Otitis Media	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever and Chickenpox	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Observation Scarlet Fever ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Paratyphoid .. .. .	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Observation Typhoid .. .. .	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Typhoid "Carrier" .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Measles .. .. .	-	1	-	10	1	2	14
Measles and Broncho Pneumonia	2	1	-	-	-	-	3
Rubella .. .. .	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Whooping Cough .. .. .	-	1	-	-	3	-	4
Whooping Cough and Pneumonia	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough and Epilepsy	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Dysentery .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Observation Dysentery .. .. .	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas .. .. .	2	-	-	-	-	1	3
Observation Erysipelas .. ..	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Cellulitis .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Cellulitis with Generalised Urticaria .. .. .	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Chickenpox .. .. .	2	-	1	5	5	4	17
Chickenpox and Extensive Burns	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Mumps .. .. .	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Observation Mumps .. .. .	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Mumps and Oophoritis .. .. .	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Mumps and Orchitis .. .. .	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Streptococcal Throat .. .. .	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tonsillitis .. .. .	2	1	1	-	-	1	5
Quinsey .. .. .	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vincent's Angina .. .. .	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Laryngitis .. .. .	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Influenza .. .. .	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Broncho Pneumonia .. .. .	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Febrile Catarrh .. .. .	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Infective Jaundice .. .. .	-	-	-	2	-	1	3
Glandular Fever .. .. .	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Mastitis .. .. .	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ..	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Totals .. .. .	53	18	6	40	29	28	174

The Cubicle Block allowed thirty-nine different diseases, observation cases or diseases with complications to be dealt with.

## SANITARY SUPERVISION OF THE AREA

Mr. Staynes, Senior Sanitary Inspector, has furnished the following report on the sanitary supervision of the district.

Inspections						
*Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	481
Foodshops	..	..	..	..	..	908
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	73
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	92
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	160
Restaurant Kitchens	..	..	..	..	..	141
Primary Public Health Acts			..	..	..	193
Re-Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	785
Primary Shops Acts	..	..	..	..	..	29
Re-Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	121
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	125
Workplace Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	10
Housing Act	..	..	..	..	..	16
Cattle Market	..	..	..	..	..	3
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	17
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	93
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	17
Control of Building Works			..	..	..	85
†Rats and Mice	..	..	..	..	..	3,184
Refuse Tips	..	..	..	..	..	7
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	105
Swimming Pools	..	..	..	..	..	4
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	197
Total						6,846

\* One-fifth of these visits were made by Sanitary Inspectors of the adjoining Rural District.

† This figure includes 2,563 visits made by the Council's Rodent Operative.

## COMPLAINTS

Two hundred and fifty-four complaints were received and dealt with as under :—

Rats and Mice	..	..	..	..	..	123
Nuisances from Drains	..	..	..	..	..	13
Offensive Smells	..	..	..	..	..	21
Defective Housing Conditions	..	..	..	..	..	22
Accumulations of Refuse	..	..	..	..	..	5
Overflowing Cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	8
Insect Pests (4 wasps, 7 beetles and 40 flies)	..	..	..	..	..	51
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	11



## STATUTORY NOTICES

### Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936

Served .. .. .	1
Complied with by Owner .. .. .	1

### Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936

Served .. .. .	1
Complied with by Council .. .. .	1

## PRELIMINARY NOTICES

Served .. .. .	157
Complied with by Owners .. .. .	138
Voluntary Works Supervised (under Building Licences, Byelaws, etc.) .. .. .	23

## INFESTATIONS

All infestations were dealt with by liquid insecticide The following infestations were dealt with during the year :—

Flies .. .. .	37
Wasps .. .. .	3
Ants .. .. .	3
Bugs .. .. .	4
Fleas .. .. .	2
Beetles .. .. .	11

## HOUSING

Two condemned cottages were let throughout the year under the Defence (General) Regulations.

One cottage condemned before the war was made fit and the undertaking cancelled.

Three houses represented as unfit for human habitation and not repairable at reasonable cost in 1949 were vacated during the year.

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## CARAVANS

Four licences to erect and station moveable dwellings (trailer-type caravans) within the Urban District were granted during the year, and one application for a licence was refused.

# FACTORIES

## 1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. .. .	26	33	1	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	71	90	2	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) .. .. .	—	—	—	Nil
Totals ..	97	123	3	Nil

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	1	1	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	4	2	—	—	—
Totals ..	8	6	—	—	—

**OUTWORK.**  
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel—						
{ Making, etc. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—
{ Cleaning and washing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

Sections 15 - 44—Nil.

**MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE**

The twenty factories in respect of which certificates of adequate means of escape in case of fire have been granted were inspected during the year and any amendments or alterations noted thereon.

**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

**Meat Inspection**

There are two slaughterhouses in use in the district, one a Government selected slaughterhouse, the other at a large institution.

During the year 5,788 animals were slaughtered at the Government Slaughterhouse and all were inspected. There were 481 visits to the slaughterhouse and 1,235 condemnations involving 38,686lbs. of meat and offals were made.

**Animals Slaughtered**

Bulls ..	..	..	..	20
Bullocks	..	..	..	531
Cows ..	..	..	..	555
Heifers	..	..	..	514
Calves	..	..	..	780
Sheep ..	..	..	..	2,988
Pigs ..	..	..	..	400
				5,788

## Carcases of Animals Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .. ..	1,065	555	780	2,988	400
Number inspected .. ..	1,065	555	780	2,988	400
All Diseases except Tuberculosis : Whole carcases condemned..	2	4	1	4	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	277	211	10	350	42
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	26.19	38.73	1.41	12.01	11.75
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcases condemned ..	8	20	3	—	2
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned ..	102	181	—	—	10
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis .. .. .	10.32	36.21	0.38	—	3.00

The above table shows that of 555 cows slaughtered, 201 were affected with tuberculosis in some degree, whilst 416 were in some way diseased. The percentage of cows killed affected with tuberculosis (36.21) is lower than the average for the last 10 years (47 per cent.).

Of 20 bulls slaughtered, 5 were affected with tuberculosis in some degree.

Of all cattle killed (1,620) 311 were affected with tuberculosis in some degree.

All cattle killed at the Government Slaughterhouse are carefully inspected and 3 cases of cysticercus bovis were found during the year. In addition information regarding 2 of the calves condemned on account of generalised tuberculosis was sent to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and, in each case, the dam was traced, slaughtered and found to be affected with generalised tuberculosis.

### Slaughter of Animals Act

Two licensed slaughtermen had their licences renewed during the year and one new licence was issued.



## OTHER FOODS

During the year there were 47 condemnations of other food involving :—

37 stone of fish	13 tins fish	152 tins fruit
28lb. peas	37 tins milk	91lb. cereals
56lb. almonds	60cwt. kernels	56 tins vegetables
11 tins soup	12 tins meat	28lb. sausages
13 tins fruit juice		

## FOOD PREMISES

The adoption of modern methods and equipment in restaurant kitchens, cafés and other places where large numbers of meals are prepared and in bakehouses and foodshops generally, having reached a satisfactory standard as a result of concentrated effort over the last few years it was felt that the largest number of persons at risk in other premises in the district were the children and staffs of schools, including private boarding schools.

The canteens of all the schools in the area provided by the Local Education Authority are modern as is the central depot at which a large number of meals is prepared, cooked and distributed daily to schools in the surrounding area.

An informal inspection of the kitchens, etc., of fifteen private schools revealed that whilst the best was being made of the facilities available, these were often out of date, badly worn or inadequate. Unsatisfactory conditions which were almost universal were—absence of double sinks and sanitary drying racks, use of detergents not understood, roller towels, and lack of hand washing facilities separate from sinks.

It is probable that the catering facilities of private schools would be very rapidly improved if the Minister of Education requested a certificate from the Sanitary Inspector as to their suitability as a condition of approval by the Ministry; such certificates as to the fitness of sanitary accommodation are requested from time to time.

Below is a list of improvements affected at the various types of food premises during 1950 :—

### General Stores selling food

Constant hot water provided	..	..	..	5
Lavatory basins	..	..	..	1
Storage facilities improved	..	..	..	1
Premises cleansed	..	..	..	1

### Grocers

Constant hot water provided	..	..	..	6
New sinks	..	..	..	5
Premises cleansed	..	..	..	4
Storage facilities improved	..	..	..	7
Accumulations removed	..	..	..	2
Extensive redecorations	..	..	..	1
W.C.s cleansed and lighting provided	..	..	..	3

### Greengrocers

Constant hot water provided	..	..	..	3
New Sinks	..	..	..	2
Lavatory basins	..	..	..	2
Premises cleansed	..	..	..	2
W.C.s cleansed and lighting provided	..	..	..	2

**Butchers**

Constant hot water provided	..	..	..	2
New sinks .. .. .	..	..	..	2
Storage facilities improved	..	..	..	1
Accumulations removed	..	..	..	1

**Cafés**

Constant hot water provided	..	..	..	1
Lavatory basin provided	..	..	..	1
Premises cleansed	..	..	..	2
Kitchen improved	..	..	..	1
Extensive redecorations	..	..	..	1

**Bakehouses**

Constant hot water provided over sink	..			1
Premises cleansed	..	..	..	2
Refuse cleared away	..	..	..	1

**Dairies**

Boiler removed from washing and sterilising room				1
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**Fishmongers**

Constant hot water provided	..	..	..	2
New Sink .. .. .	..	..	..	1
Lavatory basin provided	..	..	..	1
Extensive redecorations	..	..	..	1
Refuse cleared away	..	..	..	1

**MILK SUPPLY**

The following registrations were operative during 1950 :—

Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	5
Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	11
Dealers licensed to sell T.T. milk	..	..				9
Dealers licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	..					5

As far as is known milk is produced at 10 farms in the district, from two of which milk is sold by retail. The ten farms comprise 7 tuberculin tested, 1 accredited and 2 ordinary milk producers.

**SAMPLING****Tuberculin Tested Milk**

Fifty samples of tuberculin tested milk were taken by retail—one only failing the methylene blue test.

**Accredited Milk**

Eight samples of accredited milk were taken by retail—one failing the methylene blue test.

**Ordinary Milk**

Thirty-one samples of ordinary milk were obtained by retail—two failing the methylene blue test.

### Pasteurised Milk

Fifty-two samples of pasteurised milk were obtained and one was unsatisfactory. Nine samples of T.T. (Pasteurised) were obtained and all were satisfactory.

### Biological Examinations

Eleven samples of milk were submitted for biological examination and all gave negative results.

### ICE CREAM

There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream in this district. One premises is registered for the manufacture of ice lollies. Forty-eight premises are registered for the sale of ice cream, thirty-eight being restricted to the sale of wrapped ice cream.

During 1950 some 66 samples were submitted to bacteriological examination ; 32 falling within Grade I, 29 in Grade II, 4 in Grade III and 1 in Grade IV.

Below is a table showing the results of bacteriological examination of ice cream samples month by month.

1950 Month	No. of Samples	METHYLENE BLUE TEST						GRADE			
		2 hrs.	2½ hrs.	3 hrs.	3½ hrs.	4 hrs.	4½ hrs.	I	II	III	IV
January ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May .. ..	11	—	1	—	6	—	4	4	7	—	—
June .. ..	12	1	1	3	—	3	4	4	7	—	1
July .. ..	8	3	—	2	—	1	2	2	3	3	—
August ..	10	—	1	1	—	4	4	4	6	—	—
September ..	11	1	1	—	2	1	6	6	4	1	—
October ..	9	—	—	—	—	1	8	8	1	—	—
November ..	5	—	—	—	1	—	4	4	1	—	—
December ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	66	5	4	6	9	10	32	32	29	4	1

## WATER SUPPLY

1. The water for the whole of the urban district is supplied by the Mid-Sussex Joint Water Board. This was satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Monthly samples were taken for bacteriological analysis and all were reported as being satisfactory.

2. The Board carried out monthly bacteriological examination of the raw water and all were satisfactory. The water was chlorinated after filtration.

3. The supply is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

4. There is no evidence of the supply being contaminated.

5. Every house in the district is provided with a piped supply direct to the house.

## DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE

There were 123 complaints regarding infestations by rats or mice during 1950 and these led to the inspection of 684 premises of which 164 were found to be infested. The Council employ a rat operative trained under the Ministry's Scheme, and this man worked at 154 premises. In addition 8 infestations were referred to the County Pests Officer, and 2 infestations were dealt with by the occupiers of the premises. 229 dead rats were found and it is estimated that 1,131 rats were destroyed.

On the first of November, 1950, a free disinfestation service of private dwelling houses was commenced.

During August a re-test of the Council's sewers was made. Infestations were found at 2 of the 151 manholes tested and these were treated with poison and cleared.

## LICENSING OF WORK

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is responsible for the licensing of works to existing buildings unless structural alteration requiring the submission of plans is involved and during the year licences involving £8,968 worth of works were granted.

## PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES

The maintenance of certain public house conveniences at the Council's expense, in return for their availability to the public throughout the day, was continued.

## PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS

Mr. C. A. C. Ford, Housing Manager, has kindly supplied the following particulars :—

Housed in post-war dwellings .. .. . 54  
These dwellings were erected on the following estates :—

### Haywards Heath

Washington Road .. .. .	28
Allen Road .. .. .	8
Victoria Road .. .. .	2
Western Road .. .. .	4
	—
	42

### Lindfield

Chaloner Road .. .. .	12
	—
	54
	—



The types of dwellings erected comprised :—

Bungalows with 1 bedroom (erected mainly for elderly persons)	..	4
Bungalows with 2 bedrooms	do.	2
Three-bedroomed flats	.. .. .	5
Two-bedroomed flats	.. .. .	5
Houses—4-bedroomed in block of six	.. .. .	2
„ —4-bedroomed in block of four	.. .. .	2
„ —large three-bedroomed	.. .. .	6
„ —3-bedroomed semi-detached	.. .. .	9
„ —3-bedroomed in block of six	.. .. .	5
„ —2-bedroomed in block of six	.. .. .	4
„ —2-bedroomed semi-detached	.. .. .	8
District Nurses' houses at 37 Victoria Road and 4 Chaloner Road	..	2

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54

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In addition to new lettings a number of applicants were housed where vacancies occurred in existing dwellings, and as in the previous year transfers were made to relieve overcrowding or overcome under occupation as follows :—

Applicants housed (including 3 Court Order cases, 2 T.B. cases, and 2 from Pitchers Park as a result of a Demolition Order made against the owner)	.. .. .	37
Transfers to relieve overcrowding in Council dwellings	.. ..	4
Transfers to overcome under-occupation in Council dwellings	..	3
Families in requisitioned property offered permanent accommodation		8
Families transferred to lower rented dwellings for financial reasons	..	2

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54

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444 housing applications were outstanding at the beginning of the year and 165 were received during the year. The number of applications outstanding at the 31st December, 1950, after lettings and deletions brought about by a number of people finding their own accommodation and also by a revision carried out by this department was 394.

